The following are the details of ongoing gauge conversion works in Andhra Pradesh:

(i) Tirupati-Pakala-Katpadi Section

Work is making good progress and the section is presently targeted for completion in December, 2000, subject to availability of resources.

(ii) Mudkhed-Adilabad Section (partly in Andhra Pradesh)

Work has been taken up under the Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) Scheme and is expected to be completed in about one year's time from now.

(iii) Guntur-Guntakal and Guntakal-Kalluru with lifting of Kalluru-Dharmavaram MG section

The gauge conversion of Guntur-Guntakal section has been completed. Land acquisition proceeding for new line portion from Pendekallu-Gooty are in progress and work will be started once land becomes available. Work on Kalluru-Dharmavaram will be taken up alongwith Dharmavaram-Pakala in due course.

(iv) Secunderabad-Mudkhed and Jankampet-Bodhan Section
(Partly in Maharashtra)
The requisite clearances for this work have been obtained.

Preliminary arrangements for commencing the work are on hand.

(v) Dharmavaram-Pakala section

The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained

(vi) Naupada-Gunupur section

The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(c) No new gauge conversion works in Andhra Pradesh have been included in Budget, 1998-99. However, it is expected that work on gauge conversion of Dharmavaram-Pakala and Naupada-Gunupur sections will be started in 1998-99 after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(d) The total funds required for completion of the two projects in Rs. 247 crores, which is the cost of the works at current prices.

अजमेर रेलवे स्टेशन पर निकास मार्ग, प्लेटफार्म व बुकिंग कार्यालय का निर्माण

1187. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अजमेर के मुख्य रेलवे स्टेशन पर यात्रियों की भीड़ तथा "उर्स" व "पुष्कर" तीर्थ यात्रियों की बढ़ती हुई संख्या को देखते हुए क्या सरकार तोपदड़ा, पालबीचला की ओर एक प्लेटफार्म व निकास-मार्ग का निर्माण करने और बुकिंग की व्यवस्था करने का विचार रखती है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): अजमेर रेलवे स्टेशन में पर्याप्त बुकिंग काऊंटर तथा वितरण सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हैं, जैसे सभी प्लेटफार्म को जोड़ने वाले दो ऊपरी पैदल पुल हैं और एक पुल उत्तर में परिचालन क्षेत्र के ओर उतरता है. प्लेटफार्म 1 और 2/3 पर सायबान वाले पांच प्लेटफार्म उपलब्ध हैं। प्लेटफार्म 4/5 पर सायबानों की व्यवस्था को 51.65 लाख रु० की लागत पर अनुमोदित कर दिया गया है। अजमेर में तीर्थ यात्रियों की अत्यधिक भीड़-भाड़ की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के लिए ये स्थायी उपाय पर्याप्त हैं। अतः फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रणस्ताव नहीं है.

Amount Spent on Signalling for safe running

1188. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

the amount spent for technological inputs in the area of signalling for safe running for the last three years and their percentage out of total rail budgets during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, (SHRI RAM NAIK): A statement is attached.

Statement

(Figure in Crores)

Year	Outlay		Total S&T Plan Head	Total Plan Outlay for IR	% (Signal) w.r.t. Total Indian Railway Outlay	% (S&T Plan) Head w.r.t. Total Indian Railway outlay
	Singal	Tele.				
1995-96	145.75	129.25	275.00	7500	1.94	3.66
1996-97	173.00	83.00	256.00	8600	2.01	2.98
		50.00 (BOLT)	50.00 (BOLT)			
1997-98	146.94	54.08	201.02	11000	1.34	1.83
		40.00 (BOLT)	+40.00 (BOLT)			

नई रेलगाड़ियों का चलाया जाना

1189. **श्री मोहम्मद मसूद खान:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश में मऊ, आजमगढ़, शाहगंज से होकर नई दिल्ली, हावड़ा और मुंबई के लिए लखनऊ इनटरसिटी एक्सप्रेस रेलगाड़ी चलाने संबंधी कोई योजना है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना को कब तक कार्यान्वित किए जाने का विचार है तथा इन मार्गों पर कौन-कौन सी रेलगड़ियां चलाई जाएंगी?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Working of Book Stalls at Platforms/ Stations

1190. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to take over the working of the book stalls at platforms/stations on Indian Railways to man themselves like departmental catering;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the book stalls contractors, zone-wise and station-wise in details in each division on Indian Railways at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Incidence of Train Accidents

1191. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total toll of train accidents during the period of last three years;

(b) the reasons for those accidents and what were the reasons for accidents which tool place in earlier years;

(c) why the Kashi-Viswanath Express had made an unscheduled stop near Hardoi on the night of January 5, 1998;

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